

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-07 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSC-05

NSCE-00 CU-02 PRS-01 EUR-08 /046 W

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P R 161749Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5059

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 27124

LIMDIS

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNESCO, AORG, PORG

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH GOI PERMREP UNESCO ON  
OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

1. PERMREP ELIEZER YAPOU PAID CALL ON PERMDEL FOR DISCUSSIONS ON GOI LETTER DG M'BOW REJECTING UNESCO TEAM BEFORE GEN. CONF. YAPOU SAID THAT LETTER (SENT BY SEPTTEL) REPRESENTS BEST POSITION GOI ON SUBJECT AND THAT NO YIELDING CAN BE EXPECTED. HE SAID THEY CONSIDER TO HAVE MADE MAJOR CONCESSION IN AGREEING TO ACCEPT TEAM, ALBEIT AFTER GEN. CONF. YAPOU SAID GOI WOULD ACCEPT VISIT OF ONE PERSON, AS PER NEXT TO LAST PARA. OF LETTER, AND THAT WAS ALL.

2. IN RESPONSE, PERMREP NOTED THAT LANGUAGE OF PARA. STATES THAT "SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE COULD OF COURSE, BE A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE ORGANIZATION." IT CAN BE INTERPRETED THAT WORD "COULD" IMPLIES THAT PERSON NEED NOT BE AN OFFICIAL OF THE ORGANIZATION. YAPOU SAID THIS INTERPRETATION WAS PROBABLY POSSIBLE, ALTHOUGH HE COULD NOT BE SURE. THE POINT BEING THAT M'BOW IS ADA-  
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MANT THAT NO MEMBER OF THE SECRETARIAT BE SENT. THERE-

FORE, IN EFFECT, PARA COULD BE INTERPRETED TO MEAN THAT GOI WOULD EXCEPT ONE PERSON NOT MEMBER OF SECRETARIAT.

3. YAPOU WAD ADAMANT THAT THIS WAS FINAL COMPROMISE OF GOI AND HE FELT IT WOULD BE USELESS TO ATTEMPT TO APPLY ANY PRESSURE. YAPOU, AFTER MANY DISCUSSIONS WITH NAJMAN, IS WELL AWARE OF LIKELIHOOD DEBATE AT GEN. CONF. WILL NOW BE ENTIRELY POLITICAL AND LEVERAGE OF DG M'BOW IS GREATLY LESSENER. HE IS ALSO AWARE THAT DG MAY REACT EMOTIONALLY UPON RECEIPT OF GOI LETTER.

4. AFTER SOME QUESTIONING AS TO WHY GOI OBJECTS TO TWO PEOPLE COMING WHEN IT WOULD ACCEPT ONE, YAPOU SAID THAT GIVEN THE UNREST IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES IF IT BECAME KNOWN THAT A "TEAM" WERE COMING FROM UNESCO, DISSIDENTS MIGHT SEIZE ON THIS AS A CAUSE FOR SOME SORT OF DEMONSTRATIONS.

5. PERMREP SUGGESTED EFFORT CONTINUE TO TRY AND GET M'BOW TO ACCEPT THE SINGLE REPRESENTATIVE, WHO WOULD BE A CIVILIAN. ANYTHING THAT WILL HELP M'BOW SAVE FACE AFTER SUCH LONG NEGOTIATIONS WILL CERTAINLY BE USEFUL AT GEN. CONF. YAPOU DID NOT OBJECT TO CONTINUING THE EFFORT, BUT EXPRESSED LITTLE OPTIMISM.

6. PERMDEL RECOMMENDS THAT MATTER BE DISCUSSED WITH GOI AS WE ARE NOT SURE THAT POSITION IS ENTIRELY INFLEXIBLE. GOI SHOULD CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT M'BOW'S CREDIBILITY WILL BE SEVERELY DAMAGED BY FAILURE ON OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND HE WILL BE LESS INCLINED TO BE HELPFUL ON OTHER SENSITIVE ISSUES. PERMDEL WILL CONTINUE TO WORK TO SMOOTH THE WATERS AND AT LEAST HAVE SOME UNESCO PRESENCE IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES BEFORE THE DEBATE IN THE GEN. CONF., BUT SITUATION IS CERTAINLY NOT OPTIMISTIC.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS, OCCUPIED AREA ACCESS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976PARIS27124  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CONVERSATION WITH GOI PERMREP UNESCO ON OCCUPIED TERRITORIES  
**TAGS:** AORG, PORG, XF, UNESCO, (YAPOU, ELIEZER)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006